

A circular black and white stamp. The text "OIPED" is at the top, "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom, and "FEB 05 2001" is in the center. There is a dark, irregular mark on the right side of the stamp.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

) Group Art Unit 1647

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FEB 12 2001
2/13/01

TECH CENTER 1600/2900
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FEB 12 2004
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

This application is a continuation of prior application PCT/US96/06483 filing date May 8, 1996. In response to the Office Action mailed August 2, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

At page 1, line 1, please insert:

This application is a continuation of patent application PCT/US96/06483, filed
, 1996.)

Please cancel all pending claims, that is, Claims 1-80, and add Claims 81-140, all without prejudice, as follows:

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